



CALPEEK

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DEMOS AND GOP SET TO BATTLE OVER MARIAN BERGESON'S NOMINATION TO BE SCHOOLS SUPT.

Editor's note: State Sen. Marian Bergeson(R-Newport Beach) is Gov. Wilson's nominee to replace ousted State Schools Supt. Bill Honig. Her confirmation hearing in the State Assembly is due to begin April 1. Here is our brief report...

...Bergeson faces an **uphill battle** to win confirmation in the State Assembly, where Speaker Willie Brown may make her confirmation into a "leadership issue" within the Demo Caucus. Brown is dead set against this nomination. The Assembly Select Cmt. on the Office of State Superintendent of Public Instruction, chaired by Assembly Majority Leader Tom Hannigan, will hold hearings on Apr. 1 and 19. A floor vote is scheduled for **Apr. 22**. The State Senate's Rules Cmt. will hold a vote on Apr. 21, but no floor vote has been scheduled. And there is no reason for a floor vote *if* the Assembly rejects Bergeson on Apr. 22, as some anticipate...

...The Assembly select committee is loaded for bear, according to sources. The 17-member panel may focus in on some of Bergeson's previous statements and stands. For example, she says she *opposes* the June 1994 school voucher initiative, but she introduced a voucher bill of her own some time ago. Other topics may include Bergeson's stand on school funding, abortion and sex education. And Bergeson probably didn't do herself any favors when she talked about her views on creation in a recent S.F. Chronicle story...

...CALPEEK sources, who have been watching this nomination carefully, say they have seen little evidence so far of a major effort by Gov. Wilson or his people. But that could change. In terms of the politics of this confirmation, Republicans will attempt to pressure many of the **new Demo members**, some of whom

come from marginal assembly districts. GOPers say this vote is a test of their independence from the Speaker. GOP support among their 31 members is solid, but the question remains whether Bergeson can win 10 Demo assembly votes. Stay tuned...

L.A. MAYOR'S RACE: WOO STILL LEADING IN NEW KCAL-TV/KFWB POLL. RIORDAN JUMPS 10 POINTS.

Editor's note: Here are the new numbers in the April 20th L.A. Mayor's race. This poll was taken Mar. 20-21, sample size 600, by pollster Mark Baldassare for KCAL-TV and KFWB Radio. Here is our side-by-side comparison with an earlier KCAL-TV poll and our analysis of what all this means...

...The **1st** number after each name is from the current poll and the **2nd** number is from the Jan. 26-28 poll:

Councilman Michael Woo	24%	24%
Richard Riordan	15%	5%
Councilman Joel Wachs	6%	8%
Councilman Nate Holden	6%	10%
Assemblyman Richard Katz	4%	6%
Councilman Ernani Bernardi	3%	5%
Nick Patsaouras	3%	-
Stan Sanders	3%	-
Linda Griego	2%	3%
Julian Nava	2%	3%
Tom Houston	2%	-
Undecided	30%	36%

...The **big mover** is Riordan, who has been on TV for about 2-3 weeks and has had at least 2 pieces of mail hit during this time. Riordan has now contributed about \$3 million of his own money into his campaign and may yet succeed in buying the mayor's job. Riordan's TV ads are obviously paying off and he's hit a responsive note with older/conservative/White voters

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who are worried about **CRIME**. His pledge to put 3,000 more cops on the street *without* raising taxes is one of his key campaign themes. Did the recent L.A. Times story listing all the money he's given out to politicians over the years hurt Riordan? Maybe. If people read the story, they'll see he's the ultimate political **insider** and not an **outsider**. And his donations to **Pro-Life** causes might be a problem...

...As for the frontrunner, Woo's campaign is thrilled with these numbers. He's been under attack by his rivals for the last 2 weeks (no TV attacks as yet) and his lead has stayed at 24%. Woo continues to do well among liberals and with various ethnic groups. His appeal to younger voters also is helpful. Does Woo have a weak spot? He is not perceived as being tough on crime, which is probably why his TV ad has him pictured with Chief Willie Williams --- and he's getting bashed for this...

...The KCAL-TV poll has to be *disappointing* for Wachs, who has been on radio for 3 weeks and TV for 10 days --- and with what some sources say are good ads. The question insiders are asking about Wachs is whether he'll have the money for a strong finish. His drop in this poll certainly won't help. The numbers also must be somewhat disappointing for Holden. Yes, he's still ahead of Katz, but he's dropped 4 points and these unproved allegations of sexual harassment are still haunting him...

...With regard to Katz, CALPEEK sources are totally **split**. Some are absolutely convinced he'll finish in the money, while others believe the lawmaker started his campaign 6-8 weeks too late and won't make it. As of CALPEEK's deadline, Katz was still not on TV, but that situation will change dramatically because Katz will launch a massive TV campaign Mar. 30. And insiders are certain that Katz is the only candidate in this crowded field who has the resources to stop a Woo vs. Riordan runoff...

...FYI: At the GTE Mayoral Forum Mar. 24, Woo damn near self-destructed. In his opening remarks, which he read (one would think he could speak without reading from a script), he attempted to attack Riordan. The audience reaction was totally negative and from then on it was *Bash Michael Woo Night*. Woo was very happy when this forum ended. Stay tuned...

L.A. MAYOR'S RACE: PUBLIC FORUMS & DEBATES.

Editor's note: If you want to see the candidates for L.A. mayor in action, here is a list of forums and debates that are taking place during the first few weeks in April...

...**April 1**, 7:30 a.m. to 10 a.m., Lincoln & Boyle Heights, El Sereno & Highland Park Chambers of Commerce joint forum at Luminarias Restaurant; breakfast \$5, call for info & RSVPs (213)221-6571; and 7 - 9:30 p.m., L.A. Jr. Chamber of Commerce debate at Hancock Hall on the USC Campus, for info (213)683-8657 --- **April 2**, KCET-TV debate, 7:30 - 10 p.m. --- **April 7**, Democratic Leadership for the 21st Century Mayor's Forum, 7:30 - 9 p.m., A&M Recording studios on Highland in Hollywood, contact Norm Aladjem (213)965-9691 --- **April 8**, L.A. Business Council Mayoral Candidates' Forum, 7 - 9:30 p.m., Sinai Temple, West L.A., with Century Cable TV's Bill Rosendahl as moderator (televised by Century Cable)...

THE POLITICAL IMPACT OF B.T. COLLINS' DEATH.

Editor's note: Most political insiders were saddened and shocked by the unexpected death Mar. 19 of GOP Assemblyman B.T. Collins(Sacramento). The colorful and sometimes outrageous Collins died of a massive heart attack. The funeral was held Mar. 24, followed by a party. That's the way B.T. would have wanted it. CALPEEK now takes a look at the **political impact** of Collins' death. Here's our report & analysis...

...Democrats, especially those in the State Assembly, view the Collins' death as a real setback for good government. To the Demos, Collins was a guy who understood how government worked and was being counted on as a *sixth* GOP vote on the budget for this year. It takes 54 votes (48 Demos plus 6 GOPers) to pass a budget...

...GOP Gov. Pete Wilson also will miss Collins, more so than perhaps the Demos. Wilson talked Collins into running for the Assembly in a 1991 special and supported his reelection again in June of 1992. In both elections, Collins' main rival was hardline conservative activist Barbara Alby of Fair Oaks --- and both contests were very **bitter**...

...It's a given at this point that Alby, who got 48.4% against B.T. in the 1992 GOP primary, is the front-

runner on the Republican side, once the governor calls a special to replace Collins...

...So question #1 for Gov. Wilson and B.T. supporters is this: **Is Alby acceptable??** Some GOP sources say that unless something has changed, the answer is **NO**. And apparently that's the case, because the lone hard-line conservative in the Wilson Admin., Lou Barnett, is getting ready to run. On issues, Barnett is just as conservative as Alby, but he's a Wilson loyalist and she's not. What does this mean? The uneasy cease-fire between Wilsonites and hardline conservatives could be broken, with Wilson being a major casualty. Wilson and his operatives deny any link to Barnett's candidacy, but few GOP sources are buying that line...

...Are the Demos looking? Yes, but sources say they'd only get involved if Alby were the lone GOPer. Demos think Alby's hardline views make her a *tempting target*. The 5th A.D. has a 45.25% Demo vs. 42.61% GOP registration, meaning the district is solid Republican territory. Former Pres. George Bush carried the district and so did Bruce Herschensohn. Demo names being mentioned are Collins' 1992 opponent, Joan Barry (who got only 41% against Collins); James Cooper, a Demo staffer to State Sen. Leroy Greene; and San Juan School Bd. member Stephanie Hallinan. Stay tuned...

U.S. AMB. ALBRIGHT GIVES U.N. UPDATE APR. 2...

The Hon. Madeleine Albright, the permanent U.S. representative to the United Nations, will discuss "The U.N. In a Changing World," 11:45 a.m., April 2, Sheraton Palace Hotel in S.F. The event is sponsored by the Commonwealth Club. For info (415)597-6705...

CALIF. REPUBLICAN ASSEMBLY CONVENTION...

The Calif. Republican Assembly (CRA), the conservative GOP volunteer group, will hold its 60th Annual State Convention, April 2-4, at the Bahia Resort Hotel in San Diego. Lots of hardline conservative super-stars on hand for this event, including Oliver North and columnist Cal Thomas, plus former Congressman Bill Dannemeyer. Also on the program is Wisconsin Gov. Tommy Thompson and Richard Gann. Greg Hardcastle, who is running without opposition, is expected to be elected CRA president. Topics at the convention include taxes, gays in the military (and Boy Scouts) and immigration reform...

L.A. COUNCIL ELECTIONS: NEW POLLING DATA.

Editor's note: CALPEEK has been supplied with some new polling data in the 5th and 11th Districts. Here's our report...

- **5th District** - In this Westside district of incumbent Zev Yaroslavsky, a poll by Fairbank, Maslin, Maullin & Associates (for Zev) shows him out of front of key rival, slow growth advocate Laura Lake, by a margin of 49% to 12%, with 6% for others and 33% undecided. In terms of name ID, Yaroslavsky is known by 86% of the voters, while Lake has 12% name ID. Lake's pollster, Alex Evans, notes that anytime an incumbent is under 50% - that's a sign of vulnerability. That's a theory that is generally correct, but John Fairbank notes that 20% of the 5th District is *new turf* for Zev and it's primarily in this area where the undecided vote is -- thus Zev's 49% is considered okay...

- **11th District** - This may shock you. Incumbent Marvin Braude, who has been on the council since the beginning of time (28 years ago), shows up at only 40% in a poll taken by S.F.-based Charlton Research. Two of Braude's challengers, Dan Pritikin and Mary Lou Holte, both show up at 4% each, John Handall II is at 1%, with none of the above at 12% and undecided at 38%. Maybe this explains why Braude loaned himself \$58,500 --- thus going way over the limits and now allowing the \$500 per candidate contribution limit to be eliminated in this race. Very interesting...

CALPEEK'S ETCETERA: POLITICAL SHORT TAKES.

Editor's note: Here are a few political items worth noting...

- **Misusing Prison Bond Money** - CALPEEK sources say Gov. Wilson's new 1993-94 budget calls for the use of Prison Facility Bond funds to *operate* and *open* two new prisons. If we're not mistaken, that's not legal. The bond money is to be used to build new prisons, not operate them. Sources say former Gov. George Deukmejian(R) tried to do this same thing, but was stopped by the State Legislature...

- **L.A. Ballot Printed in 7 Languages** - There used to be a time when the ballot was printed only in English. Then came some court rulings and now most ballots in Calif. are printed in English and Spanish. But for the 1st time in L.A. City history, the April 20th

muni ballot will be printed in 7 languages: English, Spanish, Chinese, Japanese, Vietnamese, Korean and Tagalog (Philippines). How much is it going to cost? It won't be cheap...

- **Wilson's Popularity Still Low** - The latest L.A. Times poll on *job performance* shows Gov. Pete Wilson(R) still in **big trouble** with Californians. His job approval rating was only 30%, while his disapproval rating was 59%. Undecided or don't know was only 11%. The CA Legislature had worse marks. Only 20% approve of the job they're doing, while 64% disapprove. The poll was taken Mar. 20-22, sample size 1,294 adults (of which 1,032 were registered voters)...

- **Bill Press & The News Media** - If Bill Press is elected chair of the Calif. Demo Party(CDP), as seems very likely when the CDP holds its convention April 2-4 in Sacramento, will L.A.-based TV stations **boycott** his future news conferences in the L.A. market because he is part of the KCOP-TV News operation?? Good question... There is no problem for Press as CDP chair in other media markets, but in the highly competitive L.A. market sources believe Press would have a difficult time attracting TV coverage because rival TV stations would be reluctant to give exposure to a high profile personality from another station, even in a news situation. And would KABC Radio be likely to give Press the same kind of nice treatment they have given to current CDP chair Phil Angelides? Again remember, Press also hosts a talk show on rival radio station KFI, so several CALPEEK sources tend to doubt that KABC Radio would be likely to give Press the time of day. Stay tuned...

CALIF. INITIATIVE UPDATE: CHANGE PREAMBLE.

Editor's note: Here is a brief report on the 1st initiative of 1993...

- "PREAMBLE" is the official title of a constitutional amendment aimed at changing the official preamble of the Calif. constitution, which was adopted in 1879. Instead of using the phrase "the People," the proponent, Cheryl Fort of Vista, wants to change the phrase to read "the Peoples." She needs to collect 615,958 signatures by July 29 in order to qualify for the June 1994 ballot. Stay tuned...

NEW JOBS, ADDRESSES AND PERSONNEL NOTICES.

Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook...

- The S.F.-based Campaign Performance Group has relocated its Washington DC office to 901 N. Pitt St., Ste. 300, Alexandria, VA 22314-1536. New phone is (703)519-7400...
- State Controller Gray Davis(D) has named L.A. attorney Cynthia McClain-Hill to the State Fair Political Practices Commission(FPPC)...
- Former San Diego Co. Sheriff John Duffy, who served for 5 terms before retiring in 1990, has died of a heart attack while in El Salvador. He was 62. R.I.P...
- The new chairperson of the Democratic Foundation of Orange Co. is Wylie A. Aitken, prominent O.C. trial attorney. Aitken replaces outgoing DFOC chair Dick O'Neill...
- Roger Salazar has been named press secretary to U.S. Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard(D-L.A.). Prior to this new job in Washington DC, Salazar had been with Sacto-based McElroy Communications...
- Orange Co. Sup. Gaddi Vasques has become president of the So. Calif. Assn. of Govts.(SCAG), replacing outgoing president John Longville of Rialto. Brawley Councilmember Stella Mendoza is SCAG's new 1st VP, while L.A. Co. Sup. Ed Edelman is the group's 2nd VP...

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